IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 8 in accordance with the following:

1-7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A heating cooker, comprising:

a cabinet to define a cooking cavity therein, the cooking cavity being open at a front thereof;

a fan chamber defined by recessing a rear wall of the cooking cavity at a predetermined area to a predetermined depth;

an air circulation fan installed in the fan chamber to circulate air of the cooking cavity;

a heater installed in the fan chamber to heat the air;

a chamber cover mounted to the rear wall of the cooking cavity by use of a plurality of setscrews to cover an open front of the fan chamber, the chamber cover having a plurality of air suction ports at a central area thereof, with a plurality of air distribution ports provided along an edge of the chamber cover to guide the air from the fan chamber to the edge of the chamber cover to discharge the air to the cooking cavity, wherein the plurality of air distribution ports are provided along the edge of the chamber cover so that the air is not directly forced onto food in the cooking cavity; and

a sensing switch provided outside the cooking cavity to sense a tightened or released state of the setscrews which mount the chamber cover to the rear wall of the cooking cavity.

9-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) A heating cooker, comprising:

a cabinet to define a cooking cavity therein, the cooking cavity being open at a front thereof;

a fan chamber defined by recessing a rear wall of the cooking cavity at a predetermined area to a predetermined depth;

an air circulation fan installed in the fan chamber to circulate air of the cooking cavity;

a heater installed in the fan chamber to heat the air;

a chamber cover mounted to the rear wall of the cooking cavity to cover an open front of the fan chamber, the chamber cover having a plurality of air suction ports at a central area thereof, with a plurality of air distribution ports provided along an edge of the chamber cover to guide the air from the fan chamber to the edge of the chamber cover to discharge the air to the cooking cavity, wherein the plurality of air distribution ports are provided along the edge of the chamber cover so that the air is not directly forced onto food in the cooking cavity;

a food rack having an embedded heater provided in the cooking cavity to support food therein; and

a power connector provided on the rear wall of the cooking cavity at a position corresponding to the food rack to supply electric power to the embedded heater of the food rack.

16. (original) The heating cooker according to claim 15, wherein the fan chamber is placed at a left or right side of the rear wall of the cooking cavity, and the power connector is provided on the rear wall of the cooking cavity at a side which does not have the fan chamber.

17. (original) The heating cooker according to claim 16, wherein when the power connector is placed at the left side of the rear wall of the cooking cavity, the air circulation fan is rotated counterclockwise, and when the power connector is placed at the right side of the rear wall of the cooking cavity, the air circulation fan is rotated clockwise.

18. (previously presented) A heating cooker, comprising:

a cabinet to define a cooking cavity therein, the cooking cavity being open at a front thereof;

a fan chamber defined by recessing a rear wall of the cooking cavity at a predetermined area to a predetermined depth;

an air circulation fan installed in the fan chamber to circulate air of the cooking cavity;

a heater installed in the fan chamber to heat the air; and

a chamber cover mounted to the rear wall of the cooking cavity to cover an open front of the fan chamber, the chamber cover having a plurality of air suction ports at a central area thereof, with a plurality of air distribution ports provided along an edge of the chamber cover to guide the air from the fan chamber to the edge of the chamber cover to discharge the air to the cooking cavity, wherein the plurality of air distribution ports are provided along the edge of the chamber cover so that the air is not directly forced onto food in the cooking cavity,

wherein the fan chamber is defined in the rear wall of the cooking cavity to have a

rectangular shape, and is tilted to a side so that a lower surface of the fan chamber is inclined to remove impurities and washing water from the chamber.

19. (original) The heating cooker according to claim 18, wherein the chamber cover has a rectangular shape to cover the open front of the fan chamber, and a number of the air distribution ports, provided at upper and lower sides of the edge of the chamber cover at trailing positions relative to a rotating direction of the air circulation fan, is larger than a number of the air distribution ports provided at leading positions relative to the rotating direction of the circulation fan.

20-23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) A heating cooker, comprising:

a cabinet to define a cooking cavity therein, the cooking cavity being open at a front thereof;

a fan chamber defined by recessing a rear wall of the cooking cavity at a predetermined area to a predetermined depth;

an air circulation fan installed in the fan chamber to circulate air of the cooking cavity;

a heater installed in the fan chamber to heat the air; and

a chamber cover mounted to the rear wall of the cooking cavity to cover an open front of the fan chamber, the chamber cover having a plurality of air suction ports at a central area thereof, with a plurality of air distribution ports provided along an edge of the chamber cover to guide the air from the fan chamber to the edge of the chamber cover to discharge the air to the cooking cavity, wherein the plurality of air distribution ports are provided along the edge of the chamber cover so that the air is not directly forced onto food in the cooking cavity,

wherein the chamber cover is mounted to an inner surface of the rear wall of the cooking cavity by a setscrew, and a sensing switch is provided outside the cooking cavity to sense a tightened or released state of the setscrew which mounts the chamber cover to the rear wall of the cooking cavity.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)